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Office of the Governor

June 2, 2014

Members of the Board of Funeral & Cemetery Services
PMB 186
4894 Lone Mountain Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89130

RE: Veterans remains

Dear Licensed Nevada Funeral Director,

You may be aware of the recently reported story about the remains of 28 veterans that were kept for an unknown amount of time in the L.A. County Morgue. I am sure you share my belief that this tragic event is unacceptable. I ask your assistance in ensuring that it does not happen in our State.

During the 76th Legislative Session, I signed Assembly Bill 124, which amended NRS Chapter 642.0197 to read as follows:

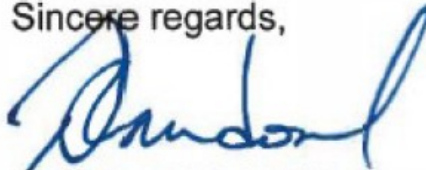
1. A funeral director who obtains custody of the unclaimed human remains of a deceased person whom the funeral director knows, has reason to know or reasonably believes is a veteran shall report the name of the deceased person to the Department of Veterans Services not later than 1 year after obtaining custody of the unclaimed human remains of the deceased person.
2. Upon receipt of a report made pursuant to subsection 1, the Department of Veterans Services shall determine whether the deceased person is a veteran who is eligible for interment at a national cemetery pursuant to 38 U.S.C. § 2402 or a veterans' cemetery pursuant to NRS 417.210. The Department of Veterans Services shall provide notice of the determination to the funeral director.
3. If the Department of Veterans Services provides notice to a funeral director of a determination that a deceased person is a veteran who is eligible for interment at a national cemetery or a veterans' cemetery, the funeral director shall arrange for the proper disposition of the veteran's remains with:
 - (a) A national cemetery or veterans' cemetery; or
 - (b) The Department of Veterans Services.

I am writing today to simply remind you of this legal change, and to let you know that my office and the Nevada Department of Veterans Services are standing by to assist you in any way that we can. We pride ourselves on providing the highest level of dignity,

honor, and respect for our fallen veterans and their family members, just as you do in your practice. If we work together, we can ensure that we deliver on this important promise for those who deserve it most.

Thank you for what you do, and for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Caleb Cage in my office. He can be reached at 775-684-7130, or by email at ccage@gov.nv.gov.

Sincere regards,



BRIAN SANDOVAL
GOVERNOR